

DESERT AIRMAN

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Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz.

Friday, Sept. 30, 2005



55th ECG Airmen earn AOC award

By 1st Lt. Beth Tucker
355th Wing Public Affairs

For their selfless contributions, achievements and dedication in information operations and electronic warfare, the 55th Electronic Combat Group has been recognized by the Chief of Staff of the Air Force and the Association of Old Crows with the 2005 United States Air Force Unit Award.

The 55th ECG is a tenant unit here and is part of the 55th Wing, Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

The group's mission is to provide combat ready EC-130H Compass Call aircraft, crews, maintenance and operational support to combatant commanders.

The aircraft and crewmembers assigned to the 55th ECG perform information operations including information warfare and electronic attack, supporting the commander in their respective theater.

Performing these missions in deployed operations in Iraq and Afghanistan simultaneously is what the men and women of the 55th ECG know best after the past year.

See **ECG**, Page 5



Photo by Airman 1st Class Christina Ponte

Remembering those who didn't return ...

Airman 1st Class Charles Harris, D-M honor guard member, salutes during the Prisoner of War and Missing In Action ceremony at the Dining-In Sept. 23. The ceremony honors the servicemembers made the ultimate sacrifice. For more information on the Dining-In, see **Dining-In participants honor past, present, future**, Page 15.

Oktoberfest offers Davis-Monthan community food, fun Oct. 7

By Senior Airman Brandy Dupper-Macy
355th Wing Public Affairs

The Davis-Monthan community is invited to attend two Oktoberfest festivities Oct. 7.

In celebration of Oktoberfest, Airmen can go to a traditional Oktoberfest dinner and celebration from 5 to 9 p.m. and the Davis-Monthan Southwest Oktoberfest and Family Teen Show from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m.

"Oktoberfest is a family celebra-

tion occurring annually since 1810," said Elaine Guinzy, 355th Services Squadron Desert Lightning Community Center recreation specialist. "It is a great opportunity for families to get together in a fun, safe environment and experience a long-time tradition. People should go to both events to experience the full effect of Oktoberfest."

"From the traditional Oktoberfest at The Mirage Officers' Club to the Community Center's updated, more carnival-like festivities at the Des-

ert Oasis Enlisted Club," said Ms. Guinzy.

"The Community Center 'Southwest Oktoberfest' and E-club's will have a variety of action challenges, finger foods, and beverages along with a live band outdoors," said Frances Pientack, 355th Services Squadron services marketing director.

"You can then attend the Mirage in-door dining with the traditional German Oktoberfest music, German dancing (and have) traditional German cuisine. Both events offer

numerous prizes just for attending and receiving a drawing ticket from our sponsors."

In addition to prizes and food, the D-M community will also have the opportunity for both children and adults to have fun.

"There will be something for everyone this year at the Community Center's Southwest Oktoberfest event held at the E-Club," Ms. Pientack said.

See **Oktober**, Page 4

The Davis-Monthan Air Force Base timeline of hours as of Monday

Squadron	Required	Flown	Annual	Squadron	Required	Flown	Annual
41st ECS	1,300.8	1,390.1	1,300.8	162nd OSB	2,038.5	2,154.2	2,135.0
43rd ECS	1,936.9	1,788.4	1,936.9	354th FS	9,875.9	9,633.8	9,891.0
55th RQS	2,880.0	2,986.2	2,880.0	357th FS	9,020.0	9,039.7	9,064.0
79th RQS	1,780.0	1,890.2	1,780.0	358th FS	9,010.0	8,907.5	9,050.0

Hispanic Heritage dorm party

The Hispanic Heritage committee is hosting a Dormitory Hispanic Heritage Picnic Oct. 7 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at Building 3508. For more information, contact 1st Lt. Ana Maria McMahon, D-M Hispanic Heritage committee chairperson, at 228-7178.

New AF Chief of Staff shares wisdom

By Gen. T. Michael Moseley
Air Force Chief of Staff

To the Airmen of the United States Air Force: We are a nation at war. Today marks the 1,455th day we've been fighting Operation Enduring Freedom. World War II lasted 1,347 days. We've now been fighting the Global War on Terror for two and a half months longer than World War II. From the day Desert Storm kicked off, January 17, 1991, the Air Force has been in continuous combat. For 14 years our enemies have shot at us and for 14 years we've returned the favor. But no matter how long the road, we must never lose our focus on winning this fight.

Today, we are engaged more than ever ... from across the globe to here at home. From taking the fight to the enemy in Iraq; to rebuilding lives in the wake of hurricane Katrina; to controlling satellites on the other side of the world; to fighting forest fires in the Rockies; to patrolling the skies over America — you can be proud of the work your Air Force is doing to protect our country. I'm incredibly proud to be a member of an Air Force family that has over 106,000 Airmen assigned or deployed in 64 countries, on every continent, and in every time zone throughout the world.

We have handled each and every task brought before us with lethal efficiency because of you. It is an honor to work and fight alongside you in service to our republic. The 684,000 active,

Reserve, Guard and civilians of the United States Air Force are truly a total force. We stand alongside our Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marine brethren ready to answer the nation's call. We fight together. We triumph together. Our promise to the joint team is that as Airmen we will always be the best in the world at what we do: dominating Air and Space from one inch above the ground to 100,000 miles above the earth.

Today, we have three major challenges facing our Air Force. First and foremost is accomplishing the combatant tasks the president and secretary of defense assign. The tasks will be ones we've done before and ones we've never undertaken. Second, we must preserve that which makes us the most feared Air Force in the world — our people.

Our culture of excellence must continue to develop Airmen ... Airmen who are the most adaptable, most skilled, most professional, and most lethal the world has ever known. Third, we face the difficult task of operating the oldest inventory in the history of the United States Air Force.

My senior leadership will work to break this cycle. I need you, our Airmen on the line, to continue making the mission happen.

As we work towards a more secure, more peaceful tomorrow ... look around. Behind us you'll see a proud, rich heritage. And in front of us is a limitless horizon.

So let's push it up, go to work and make the mission happen.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Christina Ponte

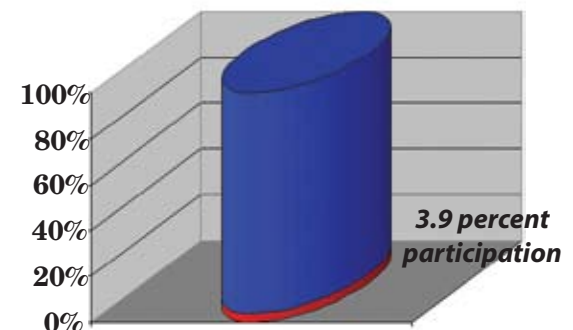
Col. Michael Spencer, 355th Wing commander, and Mike Harris, DM 50 president, toast the mess as they are sent to the grog bowl during the Davis-Monthan Dining-In Sept. 23. The grog bowl is an Air Force tradition. For more pictures and information, see **Dining-In participants honor past, present, future**, Page 15.

Agency numbers

AAFES Agencies.....	228-3904	Inspector General.....	228-3558
Accounting and Finance.....	228-4964	Legal.....	228-6432
Chaplain.....	228-5411	Lodging.....	228-4845
Civil Engineering.....	228-3401	Military and Civilian Equal	
Clinic.....	228-2930	Opportunity Office.....	228-5509
Commissary.....	228-3116	Military Personnel.....	228-5689
Family Support.....	228-5690	Public Affairs.....	228-3204
Fitness and Sports Center.....	228-0022	Security Forces.....	228-6178
Haefner Fitness Center.....	228-3714	Services.....	228-5596
Housing Office.....	228-3687	Transportation.....	228-3584

Contribution update

The goal for the 2005 Combined Federal Campaign is for 2,972 people to participate. As of Monday, 118 participant's forms have been turned in.



Ready to deploy ...

Davis-Montan:	355th Wing:
770	480

(Approximate numbers as of Tuesday.)

Team D-M Mission Spotlight



The 355th Operations Support Squadron supports the 355th Wing combat missions. The squadron directs operational support functions including airfield, air traffic control and weather services, weapons and tactics and intelligence for

an operations group with three A/OA-10 squadrons. It also develops flying schedules for more than 15,000 sorties per year.

Staff Sgt. Landry Sherman, 355th Operations Support Squadron, submits to the Federal Aviation Administration a flight plan originating from D-M.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Clark Staehle

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Photo by Airman 1st Class Christina Ponte

No 'I' in team

Airmen of the 355th Communications Squadron finish the wing-wide run strong letting everyone know who they are with their unit cheer during Wingman Day Sept. 23. After running as a wing, squadrons divided into smaller groups and did additional team building activities throughout the day.

AF Climate Survey launches Saturday

By 1st Lt. Beth Tucker
355th Wing Public Affairs

"Speak Today, Shape Tomorrow" is the motto of the 2005 Air Force Climate survey, which launches Saturday, and empowers Airmen of the Desert Lightning team to submit their inputs for their Air Force.

"The direction we take depends on you," said Chief Master Sgt. Gerald Murray, chief master sergeant of the Air Force.

The survey looks at a total force perspective of Air Force life to ensure the steps that can be taken to build a positive environment are done. Participants include active-duty members, civilians, the Air Force Reserve Command and Air National Guard.

"It is not every day we get asked what our thoughts and opinions are," said 1st Lt. Alaisha Rhoe, Climate Survey coordinator for D-M.

This year's survey is divided into four sections that drive Airmen's every day activities: organization climate factors, enduring competencies, command-specific questions and Air Force analysis questions. Within those categories, aspects about leadership, supervision, teamwork, training, effective communication, judgment and adaptation under pressure are asked about.

In addition to Air Force-wide leadership review of the survey results, the organization climate factors specific to each unit are reviewed by the particular unit's leadership. Leadership review of comments may make some concerned to openly respond, but the survey is designed to be anonymous unless an Airmen self-identifies themselves in one of the written comments.

"The questions in the survey itself are intentionally hard-hitting and I fully expect your direct, hon-

Shaping tomorrow

The survey runs from Saturday through Nov. 23. The survey can be completed anytime on a personal or government computer by visiting <https://afclimatesurvey.af.mil>.

est, and candid feedback," said General T. Michael Moseley, chief of staff of the Air Force.

"People should participate because they can make a difference by expressing their thoughts on several critical areas that ultimately impact the climate of our work areas on a daily basis," Lieutenant Rhoe said.

Last year, the Air Force-wide participation rate was 50 percent and Air Combat Command's participation was 58.9 percent, Lieutenant Rhoe said.

D-M Airmen took the opportunity to have their voices heard seriously last year, with 72.6 percent of the Desert Lightning team participating. While the ultimate goal is to hear the comments of as many Airmen as possible, the base has set a participation goal of 80 percent.

"There is strength in numbers," Lieutenant Rhoe said.

Unit points of contact will be spreading the message throughout work centers through formal and informal discussions about the opportunity to be heard through the Climate Survey throughout October and November.

"As Airmen, we have a responsibility to our leaders and the Air Force to let them know what is working and what is not," Lieutenant Rhoe said. "Now is the time to speak, as so we can shape tomorrow."

News Notes

TRICARE information table

A TRICARE information table will be set up in the Base Exchange on Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Representatives from the 355th Medical Group's TRICARE Flight, the TRICARE Service Center, Delta Dental and the United Concordia representatives will be in attendance to answer questions and hand out informational materials.

NCO enlisted call

All NCOs from Davis-Monthan are required to attend the mandatory Enlisted Call Oct. 7 at the Base Theater. Individuals need to attend either 7:30 a.m. or 3:30 p.m. enlisted call. Tenant Unit NCOs are also encouraged to attend.

Airmen enlisted call

Senior Airman and below from Davis-Monthan are required to attend the mandatory Enlisted Call Oct. 14 at the Base Theater. Individuals need to attend either the 7:30 a.m. or 3:30 p.m. enlisted call. Tenant Unit Airmen are also encouraged to attend.

Community Center closure

The Desert Lightning Community Center will be closed Oct. 14 through 16 for facility maintenance. For more information, contact the community center at 228-3717.

DM 50 picnic Oct. 15

The Desert Lightning community is invited to attend the annual DM 50 picnic Oct. 15 at Bama Park at 11 a.m. For more information, contact 2nd Lt. NaritaSan Meana at 228-4414.

Tailgate party

D-M families are invited to join the DM 50 tailgate party starting at 1 p.m. and watch as the University of Arizona football team plays against University of California Los Angeles Nov. 5 at 4 p.m. The U of A is offering a D-M Day special with \$10 tickets with free food, a ball cap and more. For more information, call 228-3700.

Finance customer service number

The 355th Comptroller Squadron has a new customer service phone number: 228-5111. In addition to the phone number, individuals can also contact the finance office through e-mail at: 355cpts.custsvc2@dm.af.mil for routine inquiries.

Terrorism history

October 7, 1985, four Palestinian gunmen hijacked an Italian cruise ship in Egypt. The terrorists killed a wheelchair-bound American. Egypt and Italy negotiated the return of the ship and the remaining passengers. U.S. fighters intercepted an Egyptian jet carrying the hijackers and forced it down at a base in Italy.

D-M's Food Service Team ready for Hennessy award evaluation

Story and photo by Chris Sweeney
355th Services Squadron

Imagine having to run a major restaurant chain in Tucson, serve almost four hundred thousand meals, with a large portion of your cooks, supply, and operations personnel gone.

"That's exactly what our outstanding Food Services team accomplished this past year," said 1st Lt. Jennifer Bordelon, 355th Services Squadron Combat Support Flight Chief. "And they did it almost flawlessly with a 98 percent customer satisfaction rating. The men and women of the Desert Inn Dining Facility and Roadrunner Flight kitchen are committed to being the best of the best."

Next week, the D-M Food Service team will have a chance to show a team of evaluators from Air Combat Command why they are the best. The D-M team is vying once again for the coveted John L. Hennessy Trophy for the best Food Service team in Air Combat Command.

"Our entire team of military and civilian food service personnel has worked tremendously hard the past year and is committed to bringing the trophy back to D-M," Lieutenant Bordelon said. "The evaluation team will be very impressed by the accomplishments."

"The Hennessy Award evaluation team will be inspecting all areas of food service," said Master Sergeant Melanie Winkey-Whitlock, 355th SVS Food Services superintendent. "They will look closely at our operations management, food quality and presentation, customer relations, sanitation, facility maintenance and contract maintenance."

"The entire food service team is up to the challenge," Sergeant Winkey-Whitlock said. "Despite the heavy deployment commitments the past year, we're ready to showcase our programs and personnel."

One of the major projects the Food Service team took on the past year was a self-help project to completely redesign the interior of the Dining Facility's main entrance. The area now resembles a comfortable park style setting complete with benches, new plants and lighting, new wall coloring and decorations, including holiday themes.

"The atmosphere makes you feel right at home as soon as you come in," said Airman 1st Class Christopher



Col. Michael Spencer, 355th Wing commander, reads the menu for the Airmen during a birthday meal sponsored by 355th Services Squadron.

Deal, 355th Equipment Maintenance Squadron. "It's pretty cool what they've done with the entrance and decorations, it really looks like a park."

As you walk through the main hallway, customers not only see what's on the menu for the day on a 42-inch plasma TV, they can also see what's happening in services through cross-marketing promotions, advertisements, and a power point show before they go through the serving line.

"We come here almost every day and the food is great," said Airman 1st Class Dontrell Ford, 563rd Operations Support Squadron. "I like checking out the current events on the marketing posters they put up, it keeps me up to date on the big events in services, and I can also decide what I'm going to eat before I go through the line."

The Dining Facility has taken great measures to help develop and nurture D-M Airmen. The birthday meal is a perfect example of that. "We give our dorm residents first class treatment during the special birthday meals," Sergeant Winkey-Whitlock said. "We cook up a delicious steak dinner for each airmen that's served to them personally by wing leadership. It really makes our Airmen feel important, especially having leadership so involved in the whole evening, including serving the cake and ice cream."

Some other accomplishments of D-M's Food Service over the year include: flawlessly accounting for over \$900K in subsistence, enhancing the

14-day menus and including heart healthy meals and different ethnic meals each week, the development of a quarterly newsletter with nutritional guidance to educate customers on healthy food choices, seamlessly handling a demanding deployment commitment where 60 personnel were deployed on two Air Expeditionary Forces, and spearheading food support for four Phase I and II operational readiness exercises, yielding excellent ratings.

"The Hennessy Trophy is an annual award presented to an Air Force base in single and multiple categories that has the Best Food Service Program," said Capt. Sirena Morris, 355th SVS Combat Support Flight commander. "Our goal is to bring the trophy back to D-M for another year. Our team has worked tirelessly and deserves nothing less than being named the Best Food Service team in ACC."

"We're looking forward to showing the evaluation team why the trophy should be back at D-M, where we have the worlds finest airmen, serving throughout the globe," Captain Morris said.

The Hennessy Team will at D-M from Wednesday through Oct. 8. There will be an Icebreaker on Oct. 5 at 5:30 p.m. at The Mirage Officers' Club. The D-M Food Service team is going up against Holloman Air Force Base, N.M., and Langley Air Force Base, Va., for the trophy. The winner will be announced later this year.

Oktober

Continued from Page 1

"The Community Center has changed the event to fit the needs of family entertainment. There will be a jumping castle and competitions for the youth levels," said Ms. Pientack.

Competitions will not only be limited to the children who attend, adults of all ages can also join in on the fun with the Family Teen and Talent Show, starting at 5 p.m. and the annual Squadron Bed Races competition starting at 6 p.m.

For the Family Teen and Talent Show, individuals interested in performing need to sign-up as soon as possible, Ms. Pientack said.

The winners selected from the Family Teen and Talent Show will move on to the Air Combat Command-level competition.

"To enter in the Squadron Bed Race at the Desert Oasis, there is a \$25 per team entry fee," Ms. Guinzy said. "If teams would like to participate, they must have their team signed up at the Community Center by Tuesday."

Individuals can also sign up for the bed race for \$5.

The top three teams in the annual Squadron Bed Race will be able to divide more than \$1,500 in cash, club credit certificates and prizes.

Additional competitions for people to participate in include: cow milking contests, race car pit-stop challenge (tire changing), cup stacking, log-sawing and nail-hammering competitions at the Southwest Oktoberfest.

In addition to the competitions people can also listen to the band "Renegade."

For a small fee, the Davis-Monthan community can enjoy hot dogs, brautwursts, chips, soda, water and beer (for those who are of legal age).

The indoor festivities at the Mirage Officers' Club will be considerably different than the outdoor events at the Desert Oasis.

"The Mirage will have a German buffet," Ms. Pientack said. "Prices are \$14.95 (\$2.00 discount to club members) for adults, children ages six to 12 years are \$5.95 and children less than five years (eat for) free."

While at The Mirage Officers' Club, entertainment from the German band, Norm Siess, will be provided and well as dancing.

For more information on the Southwest Oktoberfest, or to ask questions, call the Community Center at 228-3717.

ECG

Continued from Page 1

“In war, the group flew 530 combat sorties, totaling 2,940 combat hours while expanding the edges of information operations and electronic warfare to match the dynamic nature of today’s battlefields in Operations Iraqi and enduring freedom,” said Col. David Sammons, 55th ECG commander.

Throughout the past 17 months, the group has sustained the longest deployment in the unit’s 25-year history.

“The Airmen in the 55th ECG are absolutely vital in the Global War on Terror and definitely deserve more attention than they often get — but that’s nature of the work they do,” said Maj. Gen. Craig Koziol, who commanded the 55th Wing until Wednesday.

With such a high tasking throughout the past 17 months, training and maintenance at home hasn’t stopped either. Overseeing the Compass Call school-house here, the group trained more than 100 Airmen to continue the achievements and contributions to deployed operations.

The 55th ECG is unique to the Air

Force and is the only unit to train, maintain and conduct operations with the Compass Call aircraft. Likewise, this year’s award is unique as it is generally presented to a single operations squadron.

“This award is about teamwork and making a difference in the world we live in,” Colonel Sammons said. “The Compass Call Task Force could not have won this award without the outstanding mission and maintenance support we get from the Davis-Monthan’s Desert Lightning team at large.”

“Your contributions to the War on Terror cannot be understated,” General Koziol said to the Airmen of the 55th ECG. “From the rescue of Pvt. Jessica Lynch to the degradation of enemy communications, you have assisted our troops on the ground and saved precious lives.”

The Association of Old Crows is a nonprofit organization that focuses on the practices of electronic warfare and information operations.

Colonel Sammons will accept the award for the group at the AOC’s national convention in Virginia in October.

(Editor’s note: To see an example of what the 55th ECG does while in deployed locations, see Page 8.)



Photo by Capt. Rob Koon

Fight to the finish

Cadet Ryan Maish, Reserve Officer Training Corps from University of Arizona, demonstrates how to low crawl with fellow cadets Sept. 24. Along with Cadet Maish, an additional 54 cadets from Detachment 020 took part in the Air Base Ground Defense training exercise. The exercise was taught by security forces staff from the 355th Security Forces Squadron. During the course of the day, the cadets were able to engage in the activities and training that active duty members go through during the R2D2 course at D-M. Among the numerous activities the security forces staff taught the cadets were low and high crawling, convoy protection procedures, riot and crowd control procedures, and how to patrol in the wilderness. M-16s were also issued to each cadet with one clip and 60 rounds of blank ammunition. (Information courtesy of Capt. Stacy Vaughn, University of Arizona AFROTC unit admissions officer.)

CRIME & Punishment

Davis-Monthan discharges, Articles 15 from Sept. 6 through 23

- ◆ An airman basic assigned to the 355th Logistics Readiness Squadron was **discharged** with a general service characterization for **drug abuse**; supported by a Special Court-Martial, and five letter of reprimands.
- ◆ An airman first class assigned to 25th Operational Weather Squadron received a reduction to airman, suspended reduction to airman basic, 45 days extra duty and a reprimand for **fraudulent enlistment**. This was a violation of Article 83 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.
- ◆ A senior airman assigned to the 355th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron received a suspended reduction to airman first class, 45 days extra duty, and a reprimand for **making a false official statement**. This was a violation of Article 107 of the UCMJ.
- ◆ A senior airman assigned to the 355th AMXS received a reduction to airman first class and 21 days of extra duty and a reprimand for **failure to follow a technical order**. This was a violation of Article 92 of the UCMJ.
- ◆ An airman first class assigned to the 355th

- Equipment Maintenance Squadron received a suspended reduction to airman, seven days extra duty and a reprimand for dereliction of duty and violation of a lawful general regulation. These were violations of Article 92 of the UCMJ.
- ◆ A staff sergeant assigned to the 355th Civil Engineer Squadron received a reduction to senior airman and a reprimand for **burning with the intent to defraud**. This was a violation of Article 134 of the UCMJ.
 - ◆ A staff sergeant assigned to the 355th Communications Squadron received a suspended reduction to senior airman and a reprimand for **misuse of government travel card**. This was a violation of Article 92 of the UCMJ.
 - ◆ An airman first class assigned to the 355th CS received a reduction to airman and received a reprimand for **dereliction of duty**. This was a violation of Article 92 of the UCMJ.
 - ◆ A senior airman assigned to the 355th Component Maintenance Squadron received a reduction to airman first class, suspended forfeiture of \$547 pay per month for two months, 45 days extra duty and a reprimand for **failure to go and for making a false official statement**. These were violations of Article 86 and Article 107 of the UCMJ.

- ◆ An airman first class assigned to the 355th Maintenance Operations Squadron received a suspended reduction to airman and 21 days extra duty for **dereliction of duty**. This was a violation of Article 92 of the UCMJ.
- (Editor's note: Information courtesy of the 355th Wing Staff Judge Advocate Office. The same offense can result in different punishment for each offender. The offender's commander considers several factors when determining punishment, including the offender's service record and impact on unit discipline, cohesion and morale.)*

Area Defense Counsel tip of the week

Did you know ... If you received several letters of reprimand and letters of counseling, they could be used as the basis for an involuntary separation from the Air Force.

For more information on what help the Area Defense Counsel can give or to ask questions, call 228-5664.



An EC-130H Compass Call from the 41st Expeditionary Electronic Combat Squadron prepares to take-off in support of Afghanistan's National Assembly elections. U.S. Air Force A-10s and EC-130s as well as U.S. Navy EA-6Bs are throughout Afghanistan to help ensure voter safety as the national elections bring the country one step closer to democracy.

Airpower key deterrent to success of landmark Afghan elections

By Staff Sgt. Marcus McDonald

455th Air Expeditionary Wing
Public Affairs

BAGRAM AIR FIELD, Afghanistan – Supporting Afghanistan's Sept. 18 National Assembly elections from the skies by deterring and disrupting attacks on the ground will be a major focus as airpower blankets the country for the duration of the voting process.

Air Force A-10s and EC-130s and Navy EA-6Bs here have stepped up efforts to provide safe and secure conditions as the elections bring Afghanistan one step closer to democracy.

Lt. Col. Dave Evans, Operation Enduring Freedom Air Component Coordination Element plans officer said airpower will be a major factor to the success of the elections and follow-on political process.

"We'll maintain a sizeable airpower presence throughout the country to ensure the voting and ballot counting processes goes as smooth as possible," Colonel Evans said.

Close-air support

A-10s from Pope Air Force Base, N.C. and Davis-Monthan Air Force Base are providing close air support to ground troops and shows of presence for Afghan voters.

Lt. Col. Jeff "Duck" Cowan, commander of the 74th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron here said his "World-Famous Flying Tigers" are doing what it takes to support ground operations.

"We increased our capabilities to fully support this historic event — the second Afghan election in 5,000 years," the colonel said, a native of



Courtesy photo

Airman 1st Class Matthew Fredette, 41st Expeditionary Electronic Combat Squadron, conducts an intake and exhaust inspection on an EC-130H. Airman Fredette is currently deployed from Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.

Pittsburgh, Penn. "We've strategically positioned ourselves throughout Afghanistan to ensure the success of this election process."

Electronic protection

EC-130Hs from Davis-Monthan, and EA-6Bs from Whidbey Island Naval Air Station, Wash., are providing electronic protection for friendly forces as well as those participating in the elections.

Lt. Col. Chuck Schnarr, commander of the 41st Expeditionary Electronic Combat Squadron here, said the EC-130H crews and support personnel — who've been deployed here for more than 540 days — are making an impact on the future of Afghanistan.

"It's fascinating that the Afghan people have been and continue to be excited about voting despite the dan-

gers involved," Colonel Schnarr said. "Our mission is to alleviate some of those concerns and ensure success in these historic elections and beyond."

Cmdr. Jay "Tank" Johnston, commander of Electronic Attack Squadron 134 out of Whidbey Island Naval Air Station, Wash. said, "this is the 'Garudas' second deployment to Afghanistan, and are leveraging this experience to optimize operations in support of the elections and Operation Enduring Freedom."

"We're in the skies providing an umbrella of protection by providing electronic jamming support to ground troops and voters — I'm pretty proud of how well our aircrew and Sailors have performed during these intense operations" Cmdr. Johnston said.

Making history

An aircrew member and a crew chief gave their thoughts on their contributions to bringing democracy to Afghanistan by supporting the country's election process from above.

"I feel very privileged to be a part of this moment in history," said 1st Lt. Jeremy Smith, EC-130 mission crew commander for the 41st EECS, a native of Fairborn, Ohio. "As a squadron, we're certainly proud to support our forces on the ground as well as the voters in this election process."

"Without airpower, I believe the elections wouldn't be as successful," said Senior Airman Earlayr Haag, A-10 crew chief from Pope Air Force Base, N.C. and a native of Los Lunas, N.M. "The presence of A-10s and other aircraft in the region are helping keep the terrorists away."

The commander of the 455th Air Expeditionary Wing, as well as director of the Air Component Coordination Element here expressed how proud he was of everyone executing the mission as a team to clear the path for a successful Afghan election.

"Airpower is and will continue to play a vital role in the election process," said Brig. Gen. Bruce Burda. "Our A-10, EC-130 and EA-6B crews, along with many coalition partners, are doing a fantastic job supporting the Afghan and coalition ground forces who are working so hard to ensure the elections are completed in an open and credible manner."

"This is a team effort and I can't say enough about the job our folks are doing," the general said. "They are truly helping to make history here in Afghanistan and the region."

355th CS has new multi-media intranet site for Airmen to use

**By Senior Airman
Brandy Dupper-Macy**
355th Wing Public Affairs

In an effort to make the 355th Communications Squadron's photos easier to obtain, the Desert Lightning Image Gallery is now available to D-M intranet users at <https://photo/default.htm>.

In the past, photographs of award recipients and ceremonies needed to be picked up at the customer service desk. Now, photos can be downloaded from a government computer.

"The Desert Lightning Image Gallery will provide us with a way to get pictures out very efficiently," said Tech. Sgt. Jeremiah Erickson, 355th CS NCO in-charge of the photo lab. "Not just ceremony and awards pictures, but also local exercise documentation is delivered to base leadership much more quickly. This not only informs the bosses of events transpiring around the base, but fills an important requirement for us — getting our product out quickly to those who need it."

The site also is D-M's central repository for aircraft and mission documentation-type photos, as well as graphics and other imagery commonly used in briefings. Unit shields, the 355th Wing Power-Point master template, and other presentation-type items such as storyboard templates will be available for download.

Requesting multimedia services has become much more user-friendly, since the Air Force Form 833 has been linked to site as well. Customers can simply fill out the form, save it to their desktops, and send it to the e-mail address provided on the form.

Future improvements to the site include a video page, where customers can view and download news story-style clips of base events and small clips of operational events, such as exercises, and an expanded graphics and photo product library. Mission photography will also be constantly updated as those events unfold.

(Information courtesy of 355th Communications Squadron.)



Courtesy photo

We meet again ...

Gen. Ronald Keys, (right) Air Combat Command commander, receives a briefing from Lt. Col. Martha McSally, 354th Fighter Squadron commander currently deployed, and Col. Michael Isherwood, 355th Wing vice commander, who is also deployed. Colonel Isherwood and Colonel McSally are two of the many Airmen who deployed from Davis-Monthan Air Force Base during the Air Expeditionary Force 7/8. General Keys came to visit D-M Aug. 24 through 26 with the same purpose: to ensure Airmen have what they need to accomplish the mission.

Installation excellence

Overview of awards earned by D-M Airmen

By Lt. Col. Steven Grey

358th Fighter Squadron commander

A few weeks ago, I was tasked to help write the Installation Excellence Award for the base. Great stuff if you're an English major, but I'm a fighter pilot.

I approached the task as one more thing I had to do before I went on leave, but ended up being amazed at all the things the people of D-M accomplished over the past year.

Understand, I'm not easily "amazed" at bullets in awards packages, having written or read hundreds in my career. However, these "bullets" were not fluff but had real substance ... four pages of these bullets and we could have filled four more.

The Desert Lightning Team consists of the 355th Wing, the 563rd Rescue Group, the 55th Electronic Combat Group, Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Center, 12th Air Force, the 943rd Rescue Group, Arizona National Guard, units from four major commands and various federal agencies to include the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Homeland Security and the Border Patrol.

With all these units, it was extremely difficult to pick which bullets should be included, and some things like air expeditionary force deployments weren't the focus of this award so they weren't included.

The award focuses on how the base improved in infrastructure, customer service, quality of life, environmental safety and how we rewarded our people for their outstanding service.

It struck me that others might be "amazed" at what we've done, so here's just a sampling:

◆ Number one Civil Engineering Squadron in

“People like to be on winning teams even if it’s difficult ... this base is winning in a big way.”

— *Lt. Col. Steven Grey, 358th Fighter Squadron commander*

Air Combat Command, number one lodging services in the Air Force, Best Base Education and Training office in ACC, number one Aerospace Medical Squadron in ACC, number one Physical Therapy clinic in ACC, number one Explosive Ordnance Disposal Flight in the Air Force, as well as at least 17 ACC or above individual award winners including the Air Force Times Airman of the Year, the Air Force Male Athlete of the Year and Excellence in Ambulatory care awards to two D-M nurses — the only two awarded in the nation!

◆ The AMARC reclaimed 19,949 aircraft parts valued at \$585 million to sustain the Global War on Terrorism and regenerated and delivered 19 F-4s for use in air to air combat testing and training — an amazing task as the aircraft were stored for more than 11 years.

They also regenerated three CH-53 helicopters two-and-a-half weeks early for the U.S. Marine Corps who desperately needed the critical heavy-lift capability.

◆ The two A-10 Formal Training Units and the 355th Maintenance Group worked hand-in-hand to reduce the student training timeline from 40 days behind to less than five days behind despite an aircraft fleet whose average age is 25 years.

Bottom line results: the 355th Wing provided the Air Force more than 100 new, expertly trained A/OA-10 pilots this year. Additionally, the 355th Operations and Maintenance Groups generated and flew the largest and most aggressive flying hour program in ACC.

◆ The 563rd and 943rd Rescue Groups deployed squadrons for Hurricane Katrina relief on top of their normal deployment rotations; hundreds of rescue "saves" and tons of supplies airlifted in to the hardest hit areas.

Team D-M was asked to build the Tucson plan to accept Katrina evacuees — built/executed in four days with more than 400 individuals cared for.

◆ The 12th Air Force stood up a \$12.5 million Combined Air Operations Center integrating 540 workstations, providing 24-hours-a-day, seven-day-a-week operation that can expertly command in any area of responsibility the Air Force needs. This is the Joint Force Commander's number one asset for controlling and employing air operations.

◆ D-M wisely spent more than \$60 million improving our quality of life, security and making sure that we could deploy and fight.

This is only a small sample, there's just not enough space in this article to capture it all.

People like to be on winning teams even if it's difficult ... this base is winning in a big way.

Sometimes we get tired with all we're doing, but I'd much rather be on a winning team than sitting back and not making a real difference.

Thanks for all you do; it really matters!

Final Answer

What is your favorite thing to do in Tucson?



**Tech. Sgt.
Gabriel Silva**
355th Aircraft
Maintenance Squadron

*"I like to go out and
enjoy the Hispanic
culture, like the historic
art museums."*



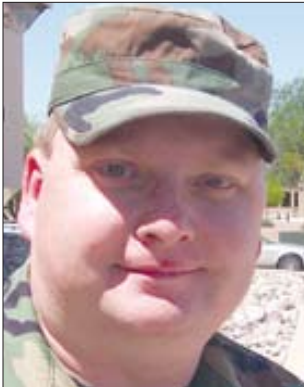
**Staff Sgt.
Iris Rodriguez**
355th Mission Support
Squadron

*"I like to go to Mt.
Lemmon because it's
cooler up there."*



**Staff Sgt.
Joe Petty**
355th Civil Engineer
Squadron

*"In the summer, I like to
hang out in the house
where it's nice and cool
or ride my quad."*



**Tech. Sgt.
Joe Farmer**
355th Component
Maintenance Squadron

*"I like to go to the
drive-in. It is a family-
bonding experience."*



**Airman 1st Class
Joshua Baucom**
563rd Maintenance
Squadron

*"I like to do yoga at the
community center off
base."*



**Tech. Sgt. James
Wolverton**
355th Component
Maintenance Squadron

*"My favorite thing to
do in Tucson is ride a
bike."*

What's your
final answer?

The **Desert Airman** is looking for answers for upcoming issues of Final Answer. Participants can e-mail their answers to desert.airman@dm.af.mil, or call Airman 1st Class Clark Staehle at 228-5092. Those who submit answers must also be available to take a mug shot photo.

- Submit answers to the following questions:
- ◆ If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go?
 - ◆ What would you do if you won the lottery today?
 - ◆ What is your favorite Air Force tradition?

Airman Leadership School graduates 45 future leaders

The Davis-Monthan Airman Leadership School graduated students from the 05-G class Sept. 22. Airmen must attend and pass this course as career progression from the junior enlisted ranks to the NCO corps.

The mission of ALS is to prepare senior airmen to be professional, warfighting Airmen who can supervise and lead Air Force teams in the employment of air and space power.

Congratulations to the following senior airman (unless otherwise noted) of class 05-G who recently completed requirements of Airman Leadership School:

355th Component Maintenance Squadron: Christian Ates;

79th Rescue Squadron: Kevin Toney;

612th Combat Operations Squadron: Cody Donovan;

612th Air Intelligence Squadron: Yari Carra-Squadronuillo;

563rd Maintenance Squadron: Kristofor Beelby, Daniel Corbett, Antonio McBride, Jason Portnoy, Jon Safran and Brian Williams;

55th Rescue Squadron: Brian Lilly;

48th Rescue Squadron: Sean McBride;

43rd Electronic Combat Squadron: David Doyle, Christopher Hicks and Bertha Vera Brillon;

41st Electronic Combat Squadron: Staff Sgt. Teresa Epperson and Jason Reigart;

357th Fighter Squadron: Christopher Wilson;

355th Wing: Shavonne Edwards and Amber Popkes;

355th Security Forces Squadron: Lakeydra Crawford and Robert Melgosa;

355th Medical Support Squadron: Michael Dechant;

355th Maintenance Operations Squadron: Alberto Miranda;

355th Logistics Readiness Squadron: Billy Martin, Rachel Moore and Khaleel Shields;

355th Equipment Maintenance Squadron: Oscar Corrales, John Everett, Martin Holmes, Richard Mize, David Nunez, Lydia Rodriguez, Daniel Salerno, Michael Scott, Sean Small and Scott Stanley;

355th Component Maintenance Squadron: Deshawn Bryson;

355th Communications Squadron: Nathan Hanks; Carl Kimmel;

355th Civil Engineer Squadron: Staff Sgt. Michael Byerly and Marshall Wilkin-son;

355th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron: Tri-sha Petersen;

354th Fighter Squadron: Melanie Levitz and

12th Information Warfare Flight: Scott Haney.

In addition to the completing the basic requirements of the Airman Leadership School program, several Airmen stood out from their class:

John L. Levitow Award

This award is presented to the most out-standing student. This winner of this award is the most distinguished graduate.

Senior Airman David Doyle,
43rd Electronic Combat Squadron

Distinguished Graduate Award

This award is presented to students in the top 10 percent of the class.

Airman Doyle, 43rd ECS

Senior Airman Christian Ates,
355th Component Maintenance Squadron

Senior Airman Sean McBride,
48th Rescue Squadron

Leadership Award

This award is presented to the student who has made the most significant contri-bution to the overall success of the class.

Senior Airman Jon Safran,
563rd Maintenance Squadron

Academic Award

This award denotes excellence as a scholar.

Airman Safran, 563rd MXS



Sonoran Spotlight

*(Editor's note: Sonoran Spotlight is a weekly feature of the **Desert Airman** that profiles a member — officer, enlisted or civilian — of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.)*



Photo by Airman 1st Class Clark Staehle

This week's Sonoran Spotlight is Senior Airman Ryan Gilbert, 355th Security Forces Squadron.

Airman Gilbert is a response force leader and installation entry controller. According to Master Sgt. Ami Masaniai, 355th SFS superintendent, installation security, he was nominated for the spotlight because "of his professional conduct and pleasant demeanor in dealing with people at

the gates of D-M. His dress and appearance are impeccable." The following are Airman Gilbert's responses to a variety of questions.

Why did you join the Air Force? I joined the Air Force for the worldwide military experience and education.

Best aspect of the job: Interacting with all of the different type of people that visit the base

Career goals: To get promoted as early as possible, take advantage of all the benefits that are offered in the military and enjoy and make the most of whatever I am given and do what keeps my family happy.

Hobbies: Running, swimming and biking

What do you like the best about D-M: D-M is a very clean base with nice facilities.

What has been your best assignment and why? D-M has been my best assignment so far because there are a lot of things to do here and it is close to a lot of my family.

If you were the base commander for the day, what would you change? I would have a run, walk, or car pool day to cut down on traffic on the gates with an award going to the unit with the most participants.

What is the best advice you've received? You can accomplish anything with a little hard work and determination.

Helping base, community

Heart Link babysitters

Heart Link, the orientation for new Air Force spouses, has children that will need care during the quarterly program Nov. 10, from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Several volunteers are needed for this event so two to three hour shifts can be worked rather than the whole day. At least two volunteers are needed at all times.

To volunteer, call Tanya Hawks at the Family Support Center at 228-5690. Military, spouses, retirees and dependents are accepted as volunteers.

Community Food Bank

The Community Food Bank is always looking for volunteer groups to unpack and sort food.

The Food Bank welcomes small groups or large groups.

Hours available are weekdays between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. or Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

For more information, or to volunteer, call 622-0525 ext. 204 or send an e-mail to khershberger@communityfoodbank.com.

Traditions

Dining-In participants honor past, present, future



Photos by Airman 1st Class Christina Ponte

Cutting the birthday cake to celebrate the 58th anniversary of the Air Force, Chief Master Sgt. Chuck Talley, 355th Wing command chief, and Airman 1st Class Joshua Wasieleczyk, 355th Logistics Readiness Squadron, represent the past and future of the Air Force. These two were the oldest and youngest members present in the mess.

By 1st Lt. Beth Tucker
355th Wing Public Affairs

In full celebration of traditions of the Air Force, members of the Desert Lightning team at Davis-Monthan attended and participated in the Dining-In Sept. 23 at The Mirage Officers' Club.

With a mixture of serious Air Force protocol and traditional Rules of the Mess, Airmen enjoyed a meal and evening of memories.

After the singing of the national anthem by Airman 1st Class Karen Adado, 355th Wing command post, members of the mess raised their wine glass to salute the leaders of our nation and others who make significant contributions to our nation and our lives as Airmen such as Mike Harris, president of the DM 50, who was in attendance for the event.

The theme of honoring those who came before carried throughout the evening.

The traditional Prisoner of War/Missing in Action remembrance ceremony started with the words "Those who have served and those currently serving in the uniformed services of the United States are ever mindful that the sweetness of enduring peace has always been tainted by the bitterness of personal sacrifice."

The guest speaker, (Ret.) Brig. Gen. Keith Connolly, continued remembering heroes of the Air Force's past with stories of his experiences as a pilot, as well as by honoring Capt. Patrick "Oly" Olson, the only Airman lost from the Desert Lightning team during Desert Storm.

The evening was full of fun and laughter with the traditional grog bowl. After examples from the Madam Vice and Mr. Vice, many in attendance had the punishment of being sent to the grog by the president of the mess.



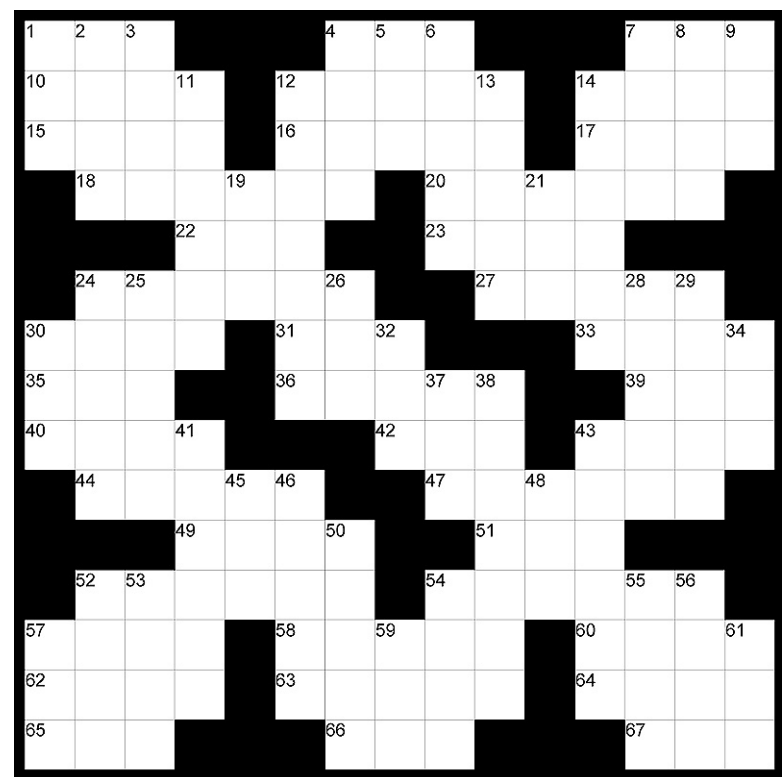
Airman 1st Class Catrina Cosman, 355th Aerospace Medicine Squadron and member of the D-M honor guard, sprinkles salt on the plate on the Prisoner of War/Missing in Action remembrance table. The salt symbolizes the tears shed by family and friends as they wait for those missing or captured to come home.



Not knowing exactly what it was they drank, Col. Dewey Holmes (left), 355th Maintenance Group commander, and Lt. Col. Michael Plummer (right), 355th Maintenance Group deputy commander, turn their cups from the grog upside down on their heads to ensure to the mess that they drank all the contents.

Hispanic people, heritage making history

- Across**
1. Edge
4. Agassi org.
7. Scout's org.
10. Middle East denizen
12. Foreign
14. Ship part
15. Capsule
16. Babysitter
17. Russian river
18. Stagnation
20. Mention
22. GOP opponent
23. Fibber
24. Laughing dogs
27. ____ Pavlovich Chekhov
30. Ewe sounds
31. Actor Chaney
33. Pilots with 5+ kills
35. Compass dir.
36. Cut up
39. Head cover
40. Dutch colonist in South Africa
42. Pod item
43. Backbone
44. Thoughts
47. Greek letters
49. Olympic medalist Katarina
51. USAF Intel org.
52. ____ Noriega; Peru-born astronaut
54. Toils away
57. ____ Moreno; 1st actress to win an Oscar, Tony, Emmy, & Grammy
58. ____ Hinojosa; Hispanic award-winning journalist
60. Erase
62. Over
63. Jabs
64. Nil
65. Precious stone
66. Observe
67. Capture
- Down**
1. Hit
2. Eye part
3. Beer type
4. Sigh or regret
5. Sn on periodic table
6. Subject to punishment
7. Dueling VP
8. Futon
9. Everything
11. Rueben ____; Hispanic American singer, actor
12. Beasts
13. ____ Velazquez; first Puerto Rican woman elected to Congress
14. Dolores ____; Hispanic American labor leader
19. Rep. Congressional counterpart
21. Vehicle type
24. ____ Hilton; POW camp in Vietnam
25. Pitched, as in a ship
26. Center of the solar system
28. Severo ____; Hispanic Nobel Prize-winning biochemist
29. Comes close
30. Weekend getaway spot, in short
32. Quick sleep
34. Sault ____ Marie
37. Ocean part
38. Saudi Arabian currencies
41. Recover
43. Cesar ____; Hispanic labor leader (Nat'l Farm Workers Assoc)
45. Feel sick
46. Trample
48. Actress Zadora



(Solutions can be found on Page 25.)

50. Former Russian rulers
52. Credit
53. Molecule
54. Profile
55. Paradise
56. Father
57. Something to clean a mess
59. Caviar
61. Small child
(Courtesy Alaskan Command Public Affairs)

Strength

D-M Airmen train, run, place in annual Air Force Marathon

By Airman 1st Class Clark Staehle
355th Wing Public Affairs

Three Airmen from Davis-Monthan competed in the U.S. Air Force Marathon at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, Sept. 17.

Capt. Rick Erkkila and Capt. Greg Krino, both of the 358th Fighter Squadron and Staff Sgt. Jonathan Larson, 355th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, competed in the event.

While three Airmen participated, two A-10s from D-M were also there to offer motivation.

"It was a great feeling running the Air Force marathon," Sergeant Larson said. "With other races you show up and compete, but with the Air Force marathon it felt like all eyes were on me and I had to represent something. When I passed the two A-10s at mile 10, the race suddenly felt very personal to me."

The Air Force marathon is an annual race held the third Saturday in September.

It began Sept. 20, 1997, to commemorate the Air Force's 50th birthday, Sept. 18.

The event offered more than just a full marathon. It was open to anyone who wanted to run half-marathon, five-kilometer, wheelchair, relay races and more.

Each of the Airmen from D-M who participated are experienced runners.

Captain Erkkila ran the 13.1-mile half marathon and placed 51st out of 964 runners.

He had an overall time of 1 hour, 31 minutes and 57 seconds. He had to keep a 7

minute, 2 second-pace per mile to achieve that time. That pace ranked him 15 of 113 in the men's 25 to 29 age group.

He runs at least three times a week year round to keep him in competition shape.

One run, he focuses on speed. On a second run, he concentrates on tempo and for his third, he centers on distance.

With so much training, Captain Erkkila puts it all to good use.

He plans to enter his fifth half marathon in Tucson later this year and his third full marathon in Phoenix in January.

He also completed the Ironman Triathlon in April.

Captain Krino went to the race with Captain Erkkila.

He placed 91st of 964 runners in the half marathon with a time of 1:38.23 and placed 25th out of 143 in the men's 30 to 35 age group. He ran a 7:31 time for each mile on the course.

Captain Krino started training for his second half-marathon race in July.

He developed a regimen to help him prepare for the race. He ran every other day, alternating routines.

First, he would do two five-mile runs, concentrating on hills and speed to increase his stamina. Then he would alternate that with a single run of about 10 miles to help him build tolerance.

"So I (didn't) wear out my legs, (I swam or biked) for an hour in between the running days," Captain Krino said.

He changed his diet by drinking more water.

Captain Krino also has plans to compete as a runner again soon.

"I want to try to do a marathon some time this winter," Captain Krino said.

"This is just kind of a training step along the way."

Sergeant Larson also competed in this year's Air Force Marathon.

He placed sixth out of 1,229 in the full 26.2-mile marathon with a time of 2:50.47.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Tracy L. DeMarco

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — Runners charge across the starting line during the ninth annual U.S. Air Force Marathon Sept. 17. The runners traversed a grueling 26.2 miles here and in the local community. Amongst the gathered crowd of a variety of Air Force participants were three Airmen from Davis-Monthan.

To make that time, he had to keep a 6:31 pace for the entire course. He also placed third out of 59 in the men's 20 to 24 age group.

He began his own training program four months ahead of time to prepare for his third 26.2-mile event.

"Usually I run my 10 miler on Monday or Tuesday and I try to keep a 6:10 to 6:15 pace per mile and on Thursday or Friday I run a 20-miler at my goal marathon pace," Sergeant Larson said. "I also try to do another hard run, but sometimes I drop it to make way for my two main runs."

Sergeant Larson's quick pace may make running a distance race seem easy, but comes after much preparation.

"As a runner, a marathon always seemed like the greatest challenge," Sergeant Larson said. "It seemed like once you ran a marathon you could run anything. Now that I have run a few, I feel like the greatest challenge is to see how fast I can run one."

Having been a competitive runner in high school, Sergeant Larson has plans to run many more races in the future.

"I've already signed up for the Firetrails 50 miler in California in October and the Tucson Half Marathon in December," he said. "Then I'm taking a month off and I'll try and figure out my race schedule for 2006."

These Airmen have set an example through months of preparation and training others may follow to achieve the same goals.

"Training for an endurance race forces you to pay close attention to your diet and overall health," Captain Krino said. "And if you happen to be stuck on base for your entire deployment, training while you're deployed might help ease some of the boredom."

Staying in good physical condition can be about more than getting in shape and maintaining a level of fitness. It can also be a driving force.

"I've always loved the saying, 'Somewhere in the world someone is training when you are not. When you race him he will win,'" Sergeant Larson said.

"This is true in more than just running. You've always got to make sure you're one step ahead of your competitors," he said.



Sports Shorts

Golf Course over seeding

Due to annual over seeding, the Blanchard Golf Course will be closed Oct. 11 through Oct. 22. The Eagles Nest will be open for breakfast or lunch with daily specials. The grill opens at 5:30 a.m. and closes at 3 p.m.

Ghosts And Ghouls 5k Run

The Fitness and Sports Center will hot a Ghosts and Ghouls 5K run Oct. 21 at 7 a.m. Registration starts at 6:30 a.m. on Sunglow Road near Swan Gate. The run is free and water will be provided.

Weightlifting Competition

The D-M Fitness and Sports center is hosting a weightlifting competition for men and women on Oct. 21, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. The event is open to anyone 18 years-of-age or older. The competition will consist of bench press, squat, and dead lift. Participants can register (no fee) at the Fitness and Sports Center front desk center by Oct. 20. For more information, call 228-0022.

12th Air Force Team takes volleyball title

Story and photo by Airman 1st Class Clark Staehle
355th Wing Public Affairs

After 11 regular-season intramural volleyball games the 12th Air Force Team 1 squared off against the Defense Commissary Agency's team in the base intramural championship Sept. 22. The 12th Air Force Team 1 defeated DeCA 25 to 15 in the first game of the double-elimination event.

The Defense Commissary Agency's team was able to rebound back and defeat 12th Air Force 25 to 12 during the second game of the match, giving each team a win.

In the third and final game, 12th Air Force went on to win the tournament by defeating DeCA 15-10.

Winning the overall championship didn't come easy, said Master Sgt. Anan Kimbrough, 612th Air Communications Squadron and



12th Air Force Team 1 coach.

"It took everything we had," he said. "We came together for the third game and pulled it off. We were the runners up last year, so this was almost like a goal, a mission. Hopefully, if no one (makes a permanent change of station move) and doesn't deploy, we'll win the championship again (next year)."

On the far side of the net, Master Sgt. Anan Kimbrough, 612th Air Intelligence Squadron, and Tech. Sgt. Thomas Wilson, 12th Air Force, get ready to block the ball as two members of the Defense Commissary Agency (red jerseys) set and prepare to spike it to the other side.

While the Defense Commissary Agency team didn't win the championship, they walked away with a second place trophy to show for their 9-2 season record.

"I think we had a really great season, it was a real accomplishment to get this far, said Marie Gonzalez, DeCA team coach.

Chapel Information

Services and activities offered by the D-M chapel are listed below. For more information on Jewish or Muslim services; Sunday School programs; Vacation Bible School; Bible studies; youth groups; and ministries, call 228-5411.

Worship schedule

Catholic

- ◆ Saturday Mass is at 5 p.m. at Desert Dove Chapel.
- ◆ Sunday Mass is at 9:45 a.m. at Desert Dove Chapel.

Protestant

- ◆ Traditional service is Sunday at 8:30 a.m. at Hope Chapel.
- ◆ Desert Lightning Fellowship (contemporary) is Sunday at 11:15 a.m. at Desert Dove Chapel.
- ◆ Gospel Service is Sunday at 11:15 a.m. at Hope Chapel.
- ◆ Sunday School classes are held for all ages from 9:45 to 1:45 a.m. in both the Hope and Desert Dove chapels.
- ◆ Children's Church is held weekly starting at 11:30 a.m. for both the Gospel and Desert Lightning services.

Education Services

For more information on programs and services provided by the Base Training and Education Services, call Norma White at 228-4249, or Rafael Maldonado at 228-3484.

New SAT Exam

The Base Training and Education Services testing center will start testing on the newly revised Scholastic Aptitude Test in November. Only active duty military personnel are allowed to take the SAT at the BTES testing center and there is no testing fee.

The new SAT exam includes a mandatory writing portion that adds 45 minutes to the exam administration time for a total test time of 3 hours and 45 minutes. For information concerning other changes to the new SAT, examinees may visit: http://www.collegeboard.com/prod_downloads/sat/newsat_students_ask.pdf.

PCC Fall Term II

Register now for Fall Term II, which runs from Oct. 20 to Dec. 18. Classes are offered in the morning, lunchtime, early afternoon, evening, and weekends on base. If you are pressed for time, try one of the self-paced mediated classes. For more information come by Building 3200, Room 224, or call 206-4866.

Financial aid

The U.S. Department of Education offers a variety of federal student aid programs. To start the process, students need to fill out The Free Application for Federal Student Aid. The FAFSA is on-line at: <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>.

University of Arizona

The University of Arizona Academic Advisor will be available Monday, in Building 3200, Room 264 from 1:30 to 4 p.m. Walk-ins and ap-

Popular pastime comes to D-M

Bluffing, winning at No Limit Texas Hold ‘Em tournament

By 1st Lt. Beth Tucker
355th Wing Public Affairs

Bluffing isn't accepted on a day-to-day basis for Airmen. However, the ultimate bluffing champion will be found at tonight's No Limit Texas Hold E'm tournament.

The tournament will be held in the multipurpose room of the Desert Lightning Community Center from 6 to 11 p.m. today.

"We want people to come out to enjoy the camaraderie with fellow Airmen," said Staff Sgt. Pernell Wall, 355th Component Maintenance coordinator of the event.

More than 85 Airmen are expected to participate, Sergeant Will said. While the event is open to all Airmen, dorm residents had the opportunity to reserve their seat.

No exchange of money will take place throughout the event. To add to the festi-

ties, free food and drinks will be provided for all who attend.

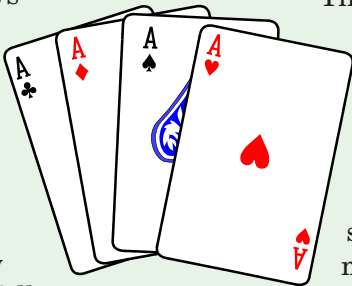
"No cash is involved because we want maximum participation from everyone around the base," Sergeant Wall said.

The top players will receive awards and other participants can win door prizes.

"There will be a final table of the winners from tables throughout the night for the championship," Sergeant Wall said. "The person who has the most chips will be our winner."

The evening provides a good opportunity for Airmen to get together in a positive environment and compete in a tournament that has gained much popularity with professional and celebrity tournaments around the country.

Standard rules for the game will be followed and knowledgeable players will be on-hand to help the less-experienced.



pointments are available. For more information, contact Judy Seger at 626-8201 or jseger@email.arizona.edu.

Family Support Center

For more information on programs and services provided by the Family Support Center, call 288-5690.

Office closure

The Base Training and Education Services office will be closed Oct. 10 for Columbus Day.

Resume, Interview workshops

These workshops cover the basic information to help prepare for the next job. The workshops will be held Oct. 7. The resume workshop will run from 9 to 11 a.m. The interview workshop will run from 12 to 2 p.m. at Family Support Center, Building 3210. Call the FSC for more information about career workshops or to sign up.

Time for Tots

The next Time for Tots will be held Wednesday, Sept. 28 and Oct. 5 at Desert Dove Chapel from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Come and meet other parents while children have fun and enjoy activities. For more information, call the Family Support Center at 228-5690.

Air Force Academy

A new Air Force Academy Liaison Officer has been assigned to Tucson. Lt. Col. Kevin Cannon can answer specific questions about the Prep School or direct entry into the Air Force Acad-

emy for prospective students. He can be reached at 760-2834 or by e-mail at kevcann8@aol.com.

Pre-separation Counseling

This class will take place at the Family Support Center Tuesday and Oct. 11 from 9 to 10 a.m. This is mandatory for military members and will acquaint departing members with services and agencies available to help transition to the civilian work force. The class size is limited to 20 attendees and should be scheduled no later than 90 days before separating or retiring or in special circumstances, as soon as possible. Call the Family Support Center to sign up.

Movies

Today Undiscovered (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Saturday The Skeleton Key (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Sunday Valiant (G) 2 p.m.
Regular admission is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children under 12 and senior citizens. Call 228-5694 for the theater movie recording.

Auto Hobby Shop

For more information on programs and services at the Auto Hobby Shop, call 228-3614.

Car And Motorcycle Show

The D-M Auto Hobby Shop will host the 2nd annual Car And Motorcycle Show Oct. 29 at Bama Park. This year's event will be bigger than ever with 21 classes of vehicles including cars, trucks, and motorcycles. Trophies will be given for best in each class and for best of show in three categories. Registration forms are available at the Auto Hobby Shop and can be downloaded at www.dmservicesonline.com.

Outdoor Recreation

For more information on programs and services through Outdoor Recreation, call 228-3736.

Fruit and veggie picking

Enjoy a relaxing and memorable day in Wilcox, located in the Sulphur Springs Valley of southeastern Arizona, Oct. 15.

The first stop will be at LABELLA Produce to enjoy the Annual Harvest Festival.

The next stop will be at Apple Annie's Orchard. Apple Annie's is packed with old-fashioned fun for the entire family. Visitors are able to pick their own fruit and produce, or select from the farm stands, enjoy freshly baked pies, apple bread, cookies and muffins and browse through gift shops, filled with gourmet foods and fudge and a delightful selection of country gifts.

The cost of \$15 includes transportation. All purchases made during the trip, including lunch, will be at participant's own expense. Coolers will be provided for fresh veggies and produce purchased. Sign up by Oct. 11 by stopping by Building 4430 or calling.

Arts & Crafts Center

For more information on programs and services at the Arts and Crafts Center, call 228-4385.

Free Children's Make & Take projects

Children ages 5 and over are invited to stop by the Arts & Crafts Center anytime between 12:30 and 3 p.m. Oct. 15 to make Halloween Decorations. There is no charge for this event, however parents must stay with their children.

Framing classes

In just two classes, participants will learn how to cut and join frames, size and cut the matts and glass, and assemble a finished piece! Cost is \$20 and supplies are included. The next sets of classes are Thursday and Oct. 13 and Oct. 20 and 27 from 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Scrapbooking class

Let the creativity flow at the Arts and Crafts Center and learn scrapbooking Oct. 29 from 1 to

Happy b-day D-M Airmen



Airman Vincenzo Campise, 355th Component Maintenance Squadron, blows out the candles on the cake for all Airmen with birthdays in September. The 355th Services Squadron held the September birthday celebration for Airmen at Davis-Monthan Sept. 15 at the D-M Dining Facility.

3 p.m. This month will be Halloween layouts and cards.

Cost is \$10 for new students and returning students receive a \$2 discount. Cost covers supplies for the course. Pre-registration for this class is required as it is subject to cancellation for lack of participation.

Children's workshop

During this month's children's workshop, children will be making a clay pot black cat.

Parents can drop off their children at the Arts and Crafts Center Oct. 22 between 1 and 3 p.m. and let their creativity flow. Cost for this class is \$6.50 and all supplies are included. Pre-registration is required for this class as space is limited.

Youth Center

For more information on programs and services provided by the D-M Youth Center, call 228-8844.

4-H week

The D-M Youth Center will be hosting National 4-H Week Tuesday through Thursday. National 4-H week welcomes participants to connect with the 4-H community where young people across America are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.

The 4-H clover represents the Head, Heart, Hands and Health and is recognized as a trusted framework for excellence in positive youth development. The 4-H program welcomes all young people to participate in a "learning-by-doing" environment where they are able to actively participate in hands-on experiences and make a lasting impact in their community.

Activities for the D-M 4-H Week include:

- ◆ Tuesday, 6 to 7 p.m., Preteen Team Building Activities (ages 9 to 12 years)
- ◆ Wednesday, 6 to 7 p.m., Primary Mini Skill-A-Thon (age 5 to 8 years)
- ◆ Thursday and Oct. 13, 7 to 8:30 p.m., Teen Build a Bridge (ages 13 to 18 years)

Activities will be held at the Youth Center and are free for all ages.

Character Counts Week

The D-M Youth Center will host National Character Counts week Oct. 16 to 22 at D-M.

Character Counts is a program that teaches youth the importance of basic ethical values. These values (also known as the "Six Pillars of Character") are Trustworthiness, Respect, Response, Fairness, Caring and Good Citizenship.

The following are activities taking place during the week:

- ◆ Oct. 18, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Preteen Caring activity — "Making sandwiches for homeless" (ages 9 to 12 years)
- ◆ Oct. 19, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Primary Fairness activities (ages 5 to 8 years)
- ◆ Oct. 20, 7 to 8 p.m., Teen Responsibility activities (ages 13 to 18 years)
- ◆ Oct. 21, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Trustworthiness and Respect activities (ages 5 to 18 years).

Child Development Center

For more information on programs and services at the Dorothy Finley Child Development Center, call 288-6463 or the D-M Center, call 228-3336.

CDC Fall Festival and Family Fun Day

The D-M Child Development Center is hosting a Fall Festival Oct. 27 at 5:30 p.m. There will be games, crafts, carnival activities, a cake walk and a pumpkin patch for the children to go through and select a pumpkin.

In order to gain admittance, each person must bring in one non-perishable food item for the Center's food drive.

Information Tickets & Tours

For more information on programs and services provided by Information Tickets & Tours, call 228-3700.

New hours of operation

Taking effect Saturday, the following will be the new hours for Information Tickets and Tours:

- ◆ Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- ◆ Wednesday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- ◆ ITT will also be closed every Saturday and Sunday.



